

# SACRAMENTO RIVER CONSERVATION AREA

*c/o California Department of Water Resources  
2440 Main Street  
Red Bluff, Ca. 96080*



Denny Bungarz, Chairman  
Ben Carter, Vice Chairman  
Jane Dolan, Secretary/Treas.  
Burt Bundy, Manager  
(530) 528-7411  
Fax (530) 528-7422  
bundy@water.ca.gov

Web page: [www.sacramentoriver.ca.gov](http://www.sacramentoriver.ca.gov)

## SRCA NOTES

January, 2001

### Dec 14 SRCA Board Meeting

Pete Rabbon, General Manager of the Reclamation Board, notified the Board that \$5 Mil of Prop 13 money was allocated through the budget process for acquisition and restoration of property key to the Hamilton City flood control effort. Restoration of habitat is also a strong component of the COE project. Local interests spoke of their involvement and support for the proposed project. This money could reduce local costs for "Lands, Easements and Rights-of-Ways" and non-federal matching funds.

The Board discussed the recommendations of the TAC on two issues: First, to consider for adoption the "Hardpoint" language that an earlier ad hoc committee had developed for inclusion into the Handbook, and secondly, to consider and set for a public informational workshop a definition of the Inner River Zone (IRZ) boundaries in Reach 4 (Colusa to Verona). The Hardpoint language had been developed through intense debate by a broadly based sub-committee of the Advisory Council, and to be included in the Handbook as an issue to consider later by the SRCA Board. After a presentation by sub-committee members Les Heringer and Paul Ward, the TAC adopted the language for recommendation to the Board as an amendment to the Handbook. The Board will consider this recommendation along with others that are being reviewed. The IRZ is not defined in Reaches 1,3, & 4 of the Handbook. The TAC has been discussing the IRZ

definition in those reaches and agreed on the language prepared by Stacy Cepello in Reach 4. Language defining the IRZ for each of the remaining reaches will also be developed for consideration by the Board. The Board, at the TAC's suggestion, set **January 23** as the date for a public workshop to be held in the area and directed the Manager to work with local interests to assure that all landowners are informed of the workshop.

The Board discussed a request to adopt veto language that would give each county the ability to veto projects within their boundaries. Language that the Family Water Alliance handed out at the previous meeting was debated and held over to the next meeting for further discussion.

A review of the San Joaquin/Sacramento Basins Comprehensive Study was given by Sue Fry and Alicia Kirchner of the Corps of Engineers. The Corps and the State Reclamation Board are preparing a comprehensive plan to reduce flood damage and improve habitat in the Central Valley. Extensive modeling and GIS information about the flood control system are being developed to provide scientific data to aid in the process. The agencies are in the process of identifying possible projects that can be included for funding. Hamilton City has been identified as a possible "Initial Project".

The next Board meeting was set for **January 18**, at the Willows City Hall.

### **M & T / Llano Seco Pumps**

A brief meeting was held in Sacramento to outline agency and funding responsibilities for a short-term action to assure the continued operation of the pumps on the M & T Ranch that not only supply water to irrigate crops, but to provide habitat for waterfowl and flows for fish in Butte Creek. A gravel bar is enlarging downstream from the mouth of Big Chico Creek that may negatively impact the pump intakes as well as the City of Chico's drainage facilities. CALFED has indicated funding may be available through contingency funds to maintain or repair the intakes. A site visit by a fluvial-geomorphologist and other agency personnel trained in river activity will occur on **January 16**. For the time and location of the visit, contact the SRCA office at (530) 528-7411.

### **TAC to Meet**

The TAC is set to meet **Jan 11** in Willows. A December meeting was not held because of the holidays and conflicting schedules. On the agenda is a discussion of the IRZ definition in Reach 1 (Keswick to Red Bluff), and a presentation by the BLM on their activities along the river in the Bend Area in Shasta and Tehama Counties.

### **Packer Lake Fishing to be Approved**

The Packer Lake fishing Compatibility Study received positive comments from the public and final approval should come from the US Fish and Wildlife Service this month. Ramon Vega announced the possible action to the SRCA Board at the December meeting.

### **Public Informational Workshop**

A Workshop to help the public understand, and provide input to, the Inner River Zone in Reach 4 will be held **January 23** at the Veterans Memorial Hall (corner of 4<sup>th</sup> and Bridge) in Meridian at 7:00 p.m. Maps and information will be provided by the Sacramento River Conservation Area staff and presentations will be made by DWR, Reclamation Board, and Bureau of Reclamation representatives on the effect of the definition of the zone.

### **Board Member Retires**

Jim McKevitt, SRCA Board member representing the US Fish and Wildlife Service gave notice to the Board at the Dec 14 meeting of his retirement. Jim has been an active participant in the SB1086 process and a strong advocate of coordinating activities along the Sacramento River. We will miss him on the Board, but he was quick to point out his interest in fish and wildlife will not diminish and he will stay involved through his new affiliation with North Fork Associates, a resources related consulting firm. Dan Castleberry will be taking Jim's place on the Board, and brings a broad base of knowledge and history of the Sacramento River to the group. Chairman Bungarz noted the loss with Jim's retirement and welcomed Dan as a new Board member.



SACRAMENTO RIVER CONSERVATION AREA  
c/o California Department of Water Resources  
2440 Main Street  
Red Bluff, CA 96080

PRSRT STD  
U.S.  
POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Red Bluff, CA  
Permit No. 15



